

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Applicants would like to thank Examiners Najjar and el-Chanti for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative, Mr. Jason Vick during the October 20 Personal Interview. During the interview it was pointed out that the May 25, 2001 Preliminary Amendment provided titles for the specification. Furthermore, Claim 17 was discussed and contrasted with the teachings of Kawan to specifically point out that Kawan at least failed to teach or suggest the specialized software, translation and utilization of said piece of specialized software as claimed. The Examiners agreed that further search and consideration would be required.

Claims 17-34 are pending with the claims generally having been amended to provide clear antecedent basis and to remove artifacts of European prosecution. Moreover, Claim 17 has been amended to recite loading into said user station in a second preliminary phase a piece of specialized software forming an interface distinct from a web browser between first and second protocol stacks, said piece of specialized software being designed to translate said specific commands received by said user station into commands that conform to a first given communication protocol, said first given communication protocol being used between the smart card reader and the smart card. Claim 17 further recites receiving said transmitted specific command in said user station, said reception step of said transmitted specific command using said piece of specialized software to intercept said specific command prior to the uppermost application layer represented by the web browser and to translate said specific command into a translated command that conforms to a first given communication protocol. Similarly, independent Claim 30 recites that the user station comprises a specialized module

forming an interface distinct from a web browser between said first and second protocol stacks said specialized module being adapted to intercept prior to the uppermost application layer represented by the web browser said specific commands and to translate said specific commands that are received by said user station in conformity with a first given communication protocol into translated commands that conform to a second communication protocol.

In stark contrast, Kawan permits smart cards and their non-smart card supporting devices to be connected to and to interact over networks, such as networks based on Internet Protocol (IP), broadband, and wide area networks using the T=1 protocol, similarly to if these devices were connected locally. Since Kawan fails to teach or suggest each and every feature as recited in the independent claims, Kawan fails to anticipate or render obvious these claims. Moreover, the claims that depend therefrom are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by virtue of their dependency and the feature(s) recited therein.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

JHV:jab

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